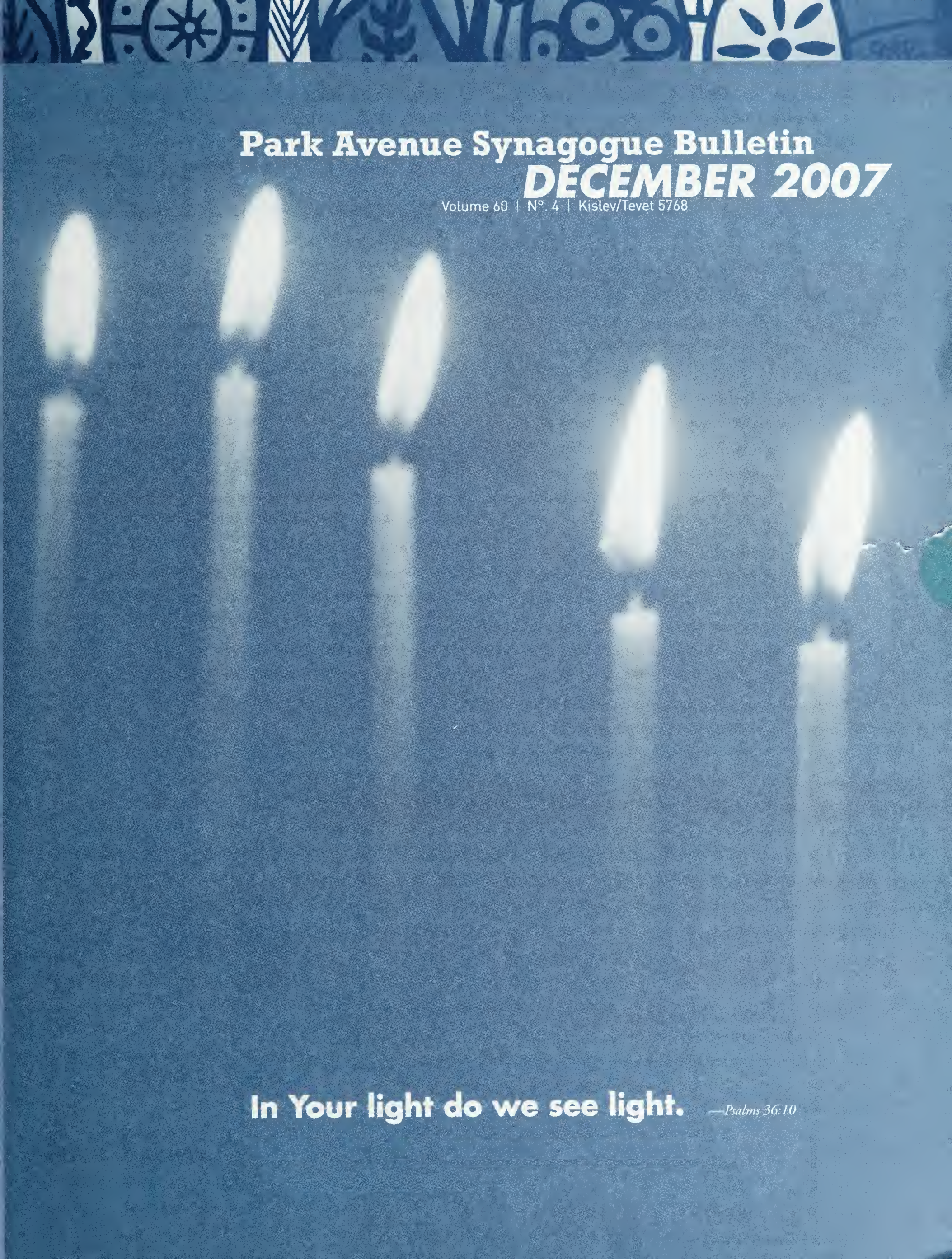
Park Avenue Synagogue Bulletin

DECEMBER 2007

Volume 60 | N°. 4 | Kislev/Tevet 5768



In Your light do we see light. —*Psalms 36:10*

The essential personal and religious qualities? Humility...selflessness...teacher...friend.

On December 13th my Rabbinical School classmates and I will receive honorary doctoral degrees from the Jewish Theological Seminary in recognition of our years of service.*

While it is a time to celebrate, and I am looking forward to reuniting with lifelong friends with whom I am in regular or intermittent contact, it is, more importantly, a time for *gratitude* and *reflection.*



Gratitude goes firstly to the Seminary for providing me with the tools and a context in which to pursue my studies. Just as important as the classroom was to our education, the interactions that took place among students; and among students and faculty in the cafeteria, in the hallways, and before, during and after services, were indispensable to the creation of a dynamic and inspiring atmosphere. Secondly, my family's love, and their support and understanding of my dedication to my "calling" cannot be conveyed adequately.

But above all, notification of the conferral of this degree, had engendered a *reflective* mood: what are the essential personal and religious qualities that I have always tried to convey? Without consciously trying to be a role model, I hope that I have been a role model, and will continue to be one.

I also look to the words that the Torah uses to describe Moses. (Full disclosure: once, posthumously, he is called a prophet). He is referred to as *"ha'ish"*—"the *man*"—a plain, ordinary man, or as an *"'eved"*—"a *servant*". Both nouns convey a sense of humility and selflessness. Centuries later our tradition would bestow upon Moses another word—a title: *"rabbeinu"*—"our *teacher.*"

My first Sukkot here I was struck by the beauty of the blue-green *Parochet* (Ark Curtain) that was commissioned in memory of Rabbi Milton Steinberg; it is breathtaking. But the words embroidered on it describing him are even more significant: the Congregation regarded him as "our *teacher* and our *friend.*"

I hope that in my desire to live as a role model, I have lived up to the standards of these two role models.

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* *Cantor Lefkowitz received his honorary degree from the Seminary last year.*

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A Look Ahead ..... Back Cover

Our presence will tangibly express our synagogue's collective commitment to Israel.

In just three weeks 243 fellow congregants ranging in age from five years old to 80 will travel to Israel together under the Park Avenue Synagogue banner. We will be traveling in six buses, three heading north, three south, for the first three days of the trip, and then five days together based in Jerusalem. We are taking all of you with us. Our presence will tangibly express our synagogue's collective commitment to Israel. We promise to represent you well.



Through the Israel Fund established in 2003 for our first trip and through the money collected at the Book Fair and on Mitzvah Sunday, we will be able to give a gift where appropriate in the name of Park Avenue Synagogue. We will be taking with us the final page of our 125th anniversary Torah. We will complete the last letters in Israel and bring it home with us in time for the Torah's dedication in January. As a Synagogue, whose priorities are a commitment to community, Israel and Torah, this should be a profound experience.

The trip to Israel has required almost two years of planning. I wish to thank Rachel Lustbader, the Recruitment Chair, and Paul Corwin, who have spent countless hours in making sure each congregant has the trip of a lifetime. I am also extremely grateful to Sarah Gribetz and Beryl Chernov for their hard work and devotion to ensure the trip's success.

I also want to call your attention to the last weekend in January (January 25th and January 26th) to reserve in your calendars to be present at a most special weekend in Park Avenue Synagogue's 125 year history.

We will be addressed by Rabbi David Ellenson, the President of Hebrew Union College, by our own Arnold Eisen, Chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary and by Rabbi Michael Paley, Scholar in Residence and the Director of the Jewish Resource Center of the UJA-Federation of New York. They will be speaking on the "Synagogue of the 21st Century."

We will also have present at our services and throughout the weekend, Craig Taubman and his band. He is considered one of the top musicians of Israeli and Jewish music in the country. The weekend also includes on Saturday night the dedication of our 125th anniversary Torah. I know that I have only been present one other time in my life for the dedication of a Torah. I was a child and still remember what that moment was like. I can't wait to share this experience with all of you.

I hope you all celebrate a joyous Hanukkah and I look forward to seeing you in the weeks to come on these momentous occasions.

Open Call

Purim Spiel

Thursday night, March 20, 2008, we are going to rekindle the tradition of performing a Purim Spiel, a musical production based on the story of Purim, at Park Avenue Synagogue. Any actors, musicians, singers, dancers, costume and scenery designers and builders and anyone willing to lend a hand with painting or sewing, please contact us. Anyone who is interested in helping us create an original production should get involved. We would love to have members, staff and faculty participate. Older children are also welcome. This is a great opportunity to interact with members of our community in a new and different way! Mandatory rehearsals will begin in January.

Please contact *Cantor Abramson at the Synagogue 212-369-2600 at ext.125 or send her an e-mail at nabramson@pasyn.org if you want to be part of this wonderful experience. Everyone is welcome.*

Schedule of Religious Services



Hanukkah Begins
Tuesday, December 4 *24 Kislev*

Hanukkah celebrates the victory of the Maccabees over the army of the Syrians in the fourth century B.C.E., after which the Temple was rededicated. According to Talmudic legend, when the Maccabees entered the Temple only enough oil for one day remained—yet the flame of the menorah continued to burn for eight days, until new pure oil could be prepared. And so the rabbis decreed that the holiday would be observed by kindling lights for eight days.

The Hanukkah menorah, called a *hanukkiyah,* has nine candle holders—one for the candle for each night of Hanukkah; and the ninth, called the *shamash,* usually higher than the others, for lighting the other candles. The candles are placed in the *hanukkiyah* from right to left. The *shamash* is lit first and then is used to light the other candles. On the first night, we light one candle, and then each succeeding night, one additional candle; the newest one first, from left to right.

Hanukkah candle lighting prayer

Ba-ruch ata, A-do-nai E-lo-hei-nu,
me-lech ha-o-lam, a-sher ki-de-sha-nu
be-mits-vo tov, ve-tsi-va-nu le-had-lik
neir shel Chan-nu-kah.
Ba-ruch ata, A-do-nai E-lo-hei-nu,
me-lech ha-o-lam, she-a-sa ni-sim
las-a-vo-tei-nu ba-ya-mim ha-heim
ba-ze-man ha-zah.
Ba-ruch ata, A-do-nai E-lo-hei-nu,
me-lech ha-o-lam, she-he-chya-nu
ve-ki-ya-ma-nu ve-hi-gi-a-nu
las-man-ha-zeh.

Mincha *Sunday-Thursday at 5:45 pm. Saturdays as noted.*
Daily Minyanim *Monday-Friday at 7:15 am; Sundays and Legal Holidays at 9:00 am, except as noted.*
Hashkama *Saturdays and Yom Tov at 7:30 am, except as noted.*

Saturday, December 1 *21 Kislev*
Parashat Vayeshev
7:30 am Hashkama Service
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
Bar Mitzvah of Brian Miller,
Son of Sharon and Lewis Miller
9:30 am Havurah Service
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am Tot Shabbat
11:15 am Nitzanim Service
4:45 pm Mincha

Tuesday, December 4 *24 Kislev*
Hanukkah: 1 Candle

Wednesday, December 5 *25 Kislev*
Hanukkah: 2 Candles

Thursday, December 6 *26 Kislev*
Hanukkah: 3 Candles

Friday, December 7 *27 Kislev*
Light Candles: 4:10 pm
Hanukkah: 4 Candles
5:00 pm Tot Kabbalat Shabbat
6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service:
Welcoming the Sabbath
Family Shabbat Dinner and Speaker

Saturday, December 8 *28 Kislev*
Parashat Miketz
Hanukkah: 5 Candles
7:30 am Hashkama Service
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
Bat Mitzvah of Shelby Hochberg,
Daughter of Arlene and Bruce Hochberg
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am Nitzanim Service
4:45 pm Mincha

Sunday, December 9 *29 Kislev*
Hanukkah: 6 Candles

Monday, December 10 *1 Tevet*
Rosh Chodesh Tevet
Hanukkah: 7 Candles

Tuesday, December 11 *2 Tevet*
Hanukkah: 8 Candles
7:30 pm Healing Service

Wednesday, December 12 *3 Tevet*
Hanukkah: 8th Day

Friday, December 14 *5 Tevet*
Light Candles: 4:11 pm
6:00 pm CS Gan, Alef,Bet & Limud
Kabbalat Service & Dinner
6:15 pm Friday Evening Service
Children's Birthday Service
7:15 pm Maalot Minyan

Saturday,December 15 *6 Tevet*
Parashat Vayigash
Shabbat HaKavod
7:30 am Hashkama Service
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
Bar Mitzvah of Danny Cohen,
Son of Lisa and Lawrence Cohen
9:30 am Havurah Service
10:00 am Shabbat B'yachad & Zimriya
11:15 am Tot Shabbat
4:45 pm Mincha

Friday, December 21 *12 Tevet*
Light Candles: 4:13 pm
6:15 pm Friday Evening Service
Farewell Service for Israel Trip Travelers

Saturday, December 22 *13 Tevet*
Parashat Vayechi
7:30 am Hashkama Service
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am Nitzanim Service
4:45 pm Mincha

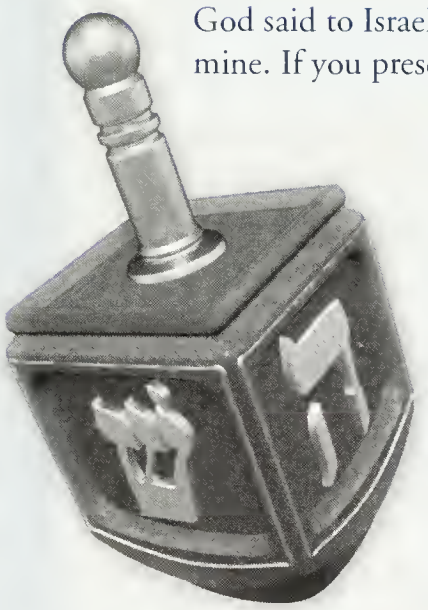
Friday, December 28 *19 Tevet*
Light Candles: 4:17 pm
Israel Trip
6:15 pm Friday Evening Service

Saturday, December 29 *20 Tevet*
Parashat Shemos
7:30 am Hashkama Service
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am Nitzanim Service
5:00 pm Mincha

Rabbi David H. Lincoln and Rabbi Kenneth A. Stern will preach and conduct the services together with Cantor David Lefkowitz and Cantor Nancy Abramson and the Synagogue Choir, with Neil Robinson at the organ.

Wednesday, December 19 is The Tenth of Tevet *Yom Ha-Kaddish HaKlali*

In the State of Israel, *Kaddish* is recited on this day for people whose date or place of death is unknown. Consequently, many rabbis have designated it as a day of remembrance for the Holocaust.



God said to Israel regarding Torah, 'My candle is in your hand and yours in mine. If you preserve My candle, I will preserve yours. —*Leviticus Rabbah*

Hanukkah at P.A.S.

Hanukkah Art Workshop

Sunday, December 2 | 10:00 am-Noon

At our Hanukkah Art Workshop, everyone—of all ages—is welcome to participate…maybe even to get your hands dirty. Ellen Alt, our noted Artist-in- Residence, and Sarah Gribetz will guide, instruct, and inspire you to creating something fun or meaningful…or maybe even a masterpiece.

Hanukkah Follies of 2007 | Thursday, December 6 | 7:30 pm-9:00 pm

What is your first thought when you hear or see the word C-H-A-N-U-K-A-H? Or do you spell it H-A-N-U-K-K-A-H? However you spell it, the holiday means "Happy Time," "Food," and "Fun." On Thursday evening, December 6, the Lower Level of Park Avenue Synagogue will be transformed into its party mode for Hanukkah Follies of 2007, an entertainment for adults. Adult food and drink should add to the happiness of those present. All guests may bring an unwrapped gift for a child (no stuffed animals) to be donated to a child in need. Save the date now. Watch for your invitation—and come, dressed to the nines, with a smile. Hanukkah/Chanukah Follies of 2007 is produced by WEG, with the support and sponsorship of the arms of the synagogue: Sisterhood, Men's Club, Parents Association, Young Couples Club and Women's Evening Group.

Sisterhood Film

"Emperors and Rebels: The Story of Hanukkah"

Tuesday, December 4 | 1:00 pm

See page 6

Sisterhood Yiddish Club

Tuesday, December 11 | 1:00 pm

See page 6



Kabbalat Shabbat: "Welcoming the Sabbath" Service
Family Shabbat Dinner
with special guest speaker
Hasia Israeli

Friday, December 7 | 6:15 pm | $ ✆

Our enhanced Friday Evening Service with special musical accompaniment encourages deeper awareness and response as we welcome the Sabbath as a community. This month, we will also honor our congregants who will be traveling to Israel.

Following the Service, a Family Shabbat Dinner will be held at which we will hear a guest speaker, Hasia Israeli, Director General of Beth Hatefutsoth, The Nahum Goldmann Museum of the Jewish Diaspora in Tel Aviv, talking about "Shared History, Shared Destiny: Jewish Peoplehood Re-defined."

$ ✆ Reservations required.
$35 per person. E-mail llys@pasyn.org or call 212-369-2600 ext. 140



Pour out your heart; Pour out your soul

Our newest liturgical offering, a monthly Healing Service, will be conducted **Tuesday, December 11 at 7:30 pm.** This brief and intimate service is specifically designed for those with cares to unburden, hopes and yearnings to express. It is meant to be a vehicle for expressing concerns of a personal nature (or your concern for someone else)—whatever is on your mind and in your heart. We hope that the inspiration and strength you will receive from participating in this service will lead to restoration of body and soul *(r'fu'at ha'nefesh, u'r'fu'at ha'guf).* THE SERVICE WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE APPELMAN CHAPEL.

For further information, *please call Rabbi Kenneth Stern at 212-369-2600, ext. 123*

Note: *the Annual Liturgical Music Service originally planned for Saturday, December 8 has been re-scheduled for February 9, 2009.*



Men's Club

Project Ezra Brunch | Sunday, December 9 | 11:00 am

A Park Avenue Synagogue tradition for over 25 years, sponsored by the Men's Club, with students from The Judah Nadich High School. We invite seniors from the Lower East Side to our Synagogue for a gala Hanukkah celebration. The students serve a festive meal and help entertain. The Men's Club and other synagogue members mingle and converse with our guests. Highlights include music, entertainment and the lighting of the menorah. Last year the visitors toured the sanctuary before returning home with gifts made for them by our school children on Mitzvah Day.

Sisterhood

Hanukkah Celebration and Film about the Maccabees | Tuesday, December 4 | 1:00 pm | *No charge*

Most of us love Hanukkah but know very little about its historical background. Join Sisterhood for a showing and discussion of the documentary film "Emperors and Rebels: The Story of Hanukkah." This film provides an understanding of the Hasmonean revolt and the successful war for freedom from the Seleucid Greeks, which was led by Judah Maccabee. A light lunch, including potato latkes, will be provided. All members of P.A.S. are welcome.

Sisterhood

Yiddish Club | Tuesday, December 11 | 1:00 pm

The Yiddish Club will meet in the Rothschild Library for Yiddish conversation, poetry and stories. Some of the material will be related to Hanukkah and we will share our memories of this lovely holiday with each other. Coffee and cake will be served.

To obtain more information *about the Yiddish Club and a schedule of its meetings, please call Florence Solomon at 212-369-3856.*

Sisterhood

Daytime Book Discussion Group | Monday, December 17 | 11:00 am

Join us in the Rothschild Library for a discussion of "The History of Love" by Nicole Krauss. Coffee and cake will be served. If you would like to have the reading list and schedule for this group, please call Dr. Renee Waldinger at 212-860-4308. Membership is open to anyone at P.A.S.

WEG

Hanukkah Follies of 2007 | Thursday, December 6 | 7:30 pm-9:00 pm

See page 5

New York City Jewish History celebration

The Rededication of the historic Eldridge Street Synagogue on the Lower East Side will take place on **Sunday, December 2** at a series of events at which our Cantor David Lefkowitz will be a featured participant, along with many notable members of the Jewish community and New York government. Cantor Lefkowitz will perform an original composition of Pinchas Minkowsky, the first cantor of Eldridge Street.

Welcome to P.A.S. *Park Avenue Synagogue warmly welcomes these new members to our congregational family:*

Lorraine Hotz and Dr. Martin Arron
Valia and Metin Negrin
Caroline and Daniel Rosenberg

MAZALTOV

Sam and Adam Silverman, both students in the Judah Nadich High School, were invited to speak on a panel at the UJA General Assembly in Nashville, Tennessee on November 12, representing UJA Federation of NY's *Give a Mitzvah Do a Mitzvah* youth philanthropy project. The panel is called "A New and Venturesome Approach to Giving and Volunteering."

Park Avenue Synagogue congratulates **Sherry Cohen and Joann Rosoff** on their being honored at The Metropolitan Region of Women's League for Conservative Judaism's Torah Fund Dinner on November 15th, 2007.

Hava Nagila "Let us rejoice" was the catch phrase, and the song resounded through the sanctuary as the hundredth anniversary of the familiar, joyous song was celebrated and sung here at Park Avenue Synagogue at all of our Sabbath Services on Saturday, October 27. Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer proclaimed *Hava Negila* week to mark the occasion.

Rabbi **Kenneth Stern** will receive an honorary doctorate from the Jewish Theological Seminary on December 13th in recognition of his years of service.



Condolences

Park Avenue Synagogue extends heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved of our congregation and their families:

Clarence S. Barasch, *on the loss of his wife, Naomi (Mimi) Barasch;*
Clarence S. Barasch, *on the loss of his sister, Jacqueline B. Schneider;*
Ellen Cole, *on the loss of her father, Daniel Cole;*
Family and friends of our member, Dr. Rhoda Cutler;
Michael Fruchtman, *on the loss of his mother, Phyllys Fruchtman;*
Richard S. Green and Elaine Gilde, *on the loss of his father, William S. Green;*
Family and friends of our member, Helen Lessing;
Dr. Gloria Shafer, *on the loss of her brother, Arthur Siegel.*

Note: *if you have family news to share with the congregation, please contact Lynn Schneider at the synagogue office: 212-369-2600 or lschneider@pasyn.org*



Brian Corey Miller | December 1

Brian began his education at P.A.S. ECC and has attended the religious school ever since. His volunteer work with senior citizens through Dorot was particularly meaningful and increased his appreciation of *tikkun olam.*

Always enthusiastic, Brian enjoys his studies at Horace Mann School, and plays on the basketball and baseball teams. He has pitched and played second base for the traveling Yorkville Eagles. Brian also enjoys skiing and playing all sports with his two brothers.

Brian always "keeps things interesting" and is a Jets fan in a house of Dolphins fans, and a Nets fan in a house of Knicks fans. He finds himself unable to separate from his brothers on the issue of the Yankees, however.

Brian enjoys spending time with his grandparents and cousins. Family vacations together are noisy and fun. The trip his grandparents took him on in honor of his becoming a bar mitzvah was very special.

Brian thanks the clergy, teachers and staff of P.A.S. who have supported and helped him to reach this important milestone in his Jewish education.



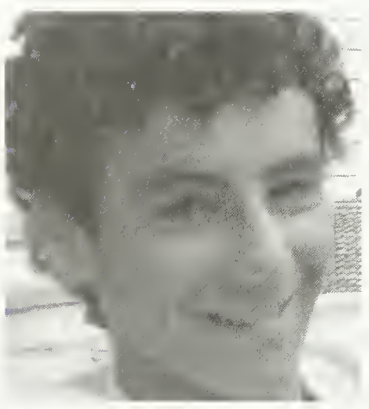
Shelby Rachel Hochberg | December 8

Shelby has fond memories of her time in the Orange and Green rooms of the P.A.S. Early Childhood Center. She continued her Jewish education in the Congregational School and is now proud to become a Bat Mitzvah.

Currently in the Eighth Grade at Anderson Middle School, Shelby enjoys her English and History classes the most. Her free time is spent practicing gymnastics at the 92nd Street Y, where she is a member of the "Y" Gymnastics team. Shelby also enjoys spending time with her friends and reading and writing. Her last three summers have been spent at Eisner Camp in the Berkshires, and on family trips to Cape Cod and various National Parks.

Shelby is participating in UJA's *Give a Mitzvah, Do a Mitzvah* program. She will be working with the Gift of Literacy program at the JCC of Manhattan, tutoring "at risk" Second and Third Graders.

Shelby thanks Marian Turk and the P.A.S. clergy for their help in preparing her for her Bat Mitzvah.



Danny Cohen | December 15

Danny Cohen is no stranger to Park Avenue Synagogue. Following in his brothers' footsteps, he was three years old when he began at the P.A.S. Early Childhood Center and went on to the Congregational School.

He is currently a Seventh Grader at Riverdale Country School. Danny participates in many sports including basketball, baseball, surfing, and snowboarding. He currently plays on the Riverdale football team for the Middle School. During the summer, Danny goes to Camp Cedar in Maine.

Danny traveled to Israel with his family and it was especially meaningful knowing he was next in line in his family to become a bar mitzvah.

Many thanks to all Danny's teachers, the clergy and to Ronit Aranoff for helping Danny to prepare for his big day.



"Unbroken Chain: Shared History, Shared Destiny"
P.A.S. 125th Anniversary Trip to Israel | December 22-January 1

The very special experience that being in Israel represents will be even more extraordinary as 243 members of our congregational family will be traveling together, learning together, praying together, and having a wonderful time, as we celebrate our heritage and our 125th Anniversary together in the homeland of our people.



Learn Hebrew on Mondays | $ ✆

THE NEXT TRIMESTER BEGINS JANUARY 7, AND EXTENDS TO MARCH 31

Siddur Hebrew—Level I—Beginners

Monday, December 3 | 6:30-7:30 pm

Dina Mann, Instructor

No knowledge of Hebrew necessary

Siddur Hebrew—Level II—Intermediate

Monday, December 3 | 6:30-7:30 pm

Sarah Gribetz, Instructor

Conversational Hebrew for Travelers

Monday, December 3 | 6:30-7:30 pm

Andi Meiseles, Instructor

A mini-Ulpan course for those going on the P.A.S. 125th Anniversary Trip to Israel and/or for all interested in learning to speak Modern Hebrew. No previous knowledge necessary.

Modern Hebrew for Intermediate and Advanced Students

Monday, December 3 | 7:30-8:30 pm

Varda Hubara, Instructor

$ ✆ All courses listed above require advance registration and payment.
$50/ per trimester for members
$75/ per trimester for non-members

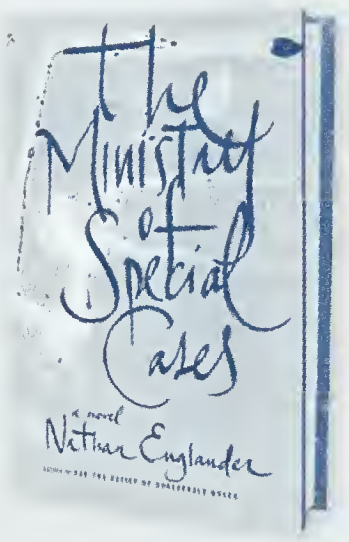
Contact *the Office of Lifelong Learning for more information or to register for the next trimester. 212-369-2600 ext. 140 or llys@pasyn.org.*



Expecting? Before the Stork Arrives

Monday, December 3 | 8:00 pm | *No charge*

Spend a calm, leisurely hour with Rabbi Kenneth Stern thinking and talking about Hebrew names, *brit milah*, baby-naming ceremonies, and *pidyon haben*...before the stork arrives and you have to make these decisions amidst the emotions and changes that come with the arrival of your newborn.



Evening Book Discussion Group

Monday, December 17 | 8:00 pm | *No charge*

The Evening Book Discussion Group meets monthly for thoughtful discussion of significant and interesting books. This month's selection is "The Ministry of Special Cases" by Nathan Englander. This novel, set in Buenos Aires in 1976, deals with death, identity, bureaucracy, absence, and plastic surgery; while it tells the story of Kadish Poznan, the son of a whore, who spends his nights in the cemetery defacing the names of Jewish people whose children want to forget their parents' shameful activities.

Contact *Pat Davidson at alpqt120@aol.com for more information.*

Explore this theme with Rabbi Stern

"What Do American Jews Believe?"

Tuesday mornings, December 4, 11, and 18 | 11:00 am

In a memorable symposium, Commentary magazine asked 47 modern Jewish thinkers "What Do American Jews Believe?" Rabbi Kenneth Stern is currently using this symposium as the text for his course on Jewish thought and practice—"Tuesday Topics." The course is conducted in an informal roundtable setting in the Rothschild Library. It is sponsored by the Sisterhood and is open to all members of P.A.S. Don't hesitate to drop in and sample a class.

No charge





Lunch 'n' Learn

Thursdays, December 6, 13, 20, and 27 | 11:00 am-1:00 pm
Members of the Clergy and Education Department, Instructors

Meet others and share a learning experience with fellow congregants and the synagogue's professional leadership. Topics are varied. Bring a kosher dairy lunch; coffee will be served.

No charge

© **For more information or to register** *for any of these classes, contact the Department of Lifelong Learning, at 212-369-2600 ext. 140, or llys@pasyn.org*



P.A.S. Gallery

P.A.S. Timeline: Selections from our Archives | Through January 2008

This very special exhibition includes a timeline of Park Avenue Synagogue history, juxtaposing P.A.S. milestones with contemporary events in Jewish history, as well as significant events in NYC, American, and world history. The exhibit cases feature significant artifacts from the P.A.S. Archives collection. The Exhibition Committee, chaired by Jean Bloch Rosensaft, working closely with Archives Co-Chairs Laurie Harris and Marcia Stone, has been collecting and organizing this material for over a year. The show begins with the history of the founding congregations, and then surveys the decades from the 1920s through the 125th Anniversary year. The display of documents, photographs, and artifacts illuminates the sequential development of the synagogue's three structures and the role of contemporary art commissions for the Adolph Gottlieb stained glass windows and Nathan Rapoport façade sculptures. The exhibition highlights the generations of clergy who have led our synagogue with commitment and vision and their distinguished contributions to P.A.S., the Jewish community, and world history. It features the special role that P.A.S. has played in the renaissance of Jewish music through the commissioning of liturgical music from the 1940s to the present day.

The following are available for your reading pleasure
in the Rothschild:

Periodicals of interest include:

New York Times—Daily

Forward—the historic weekly newspaper still covering Jewish news

The International Jerusalem Post—weekly news articles out of Israel

The Jerusalem Report—monthly, "covering Israel, the Middle East and the Jewish world"

Biblical Archaeology Review—monthly with amazing and accessible articles about Israel in antiquity.

Lilith—monthly, "Independent, Jewish and frankly feminist"

Moment—monthly, "Jewish politics, culture, religion"

Sh'ma—monthly, a highly respected forum for Jewish discussion

and many others.

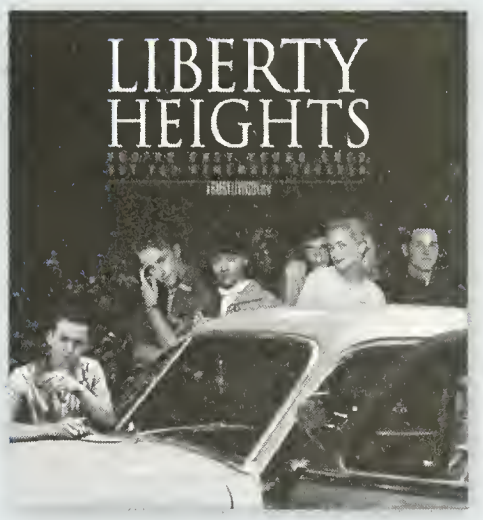
New books of interest include:

"Up, Up, and Oy Vey: How Jewish History, Culture, and Values Shaped the Comic Book Superhero"
by Simcha Weinstein
Fascinating and amusing insight into Jewish contributions to American pop culture.

"The Mystery of the Kaddish: Its Profound Influence on Judaism"
by Charney and Mayzlish



Please come in and explore.
—Rabbi Dawn Rose, Library Director



Perpetual Jewish Film Festival at the Rothschild Library presents

"Liberty Heights"

Wednesday, December 12
7:00 pm | *No charge*
A Barry Levinson semi-autobiographical film thought by some to be his greatest, most intimate, portrait of Jewish Americana. Set in a suburb of Baltimore, this comedy/drama follows the Kurtzman family. The father runs burlesque theater. The mom stays at home. One son is dating an African-American girl and dresses up as Hitler for Halloween. And so on. It's all there, from one of the most influential Jewish directors of our time.

Always Free and Always at the Rothschild.

Rothschild Library Hours

Monday: 12:00-6:30 pm | Tuesday: 12:00-6:30 pm | Wednesday: 12:00-8:00 pm | Thursday: 10:00am-6:30 pm

Part I:

Zionism, the Holocaust and the State of Israel

By Laurie Harris, Co-Chair, Archives Committee

ZIONISM AND AMERICAN JEWRY

Jews in America during the nineteenth century felt that opportunities were open to them, while Europe remained rife with anti-Semitism. Therefore, there was at first little American support for the Zionist movement to establish a modern Jewish state in Palestine, except among the Conservative movement. The first Zionist Congress met in Basel, Switzerland in 1897, and by 1905, Solomon Schechter, Chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary, had thrown the support of American Conservative Jewry into the Zionist camp. Subsequently, United Synagogue of America, the synagogue arm of the Conservative movement, endorsed Palestine as a Jewish homeland and the embodiment of the religious ideals of Judaism.

SUPPORT FOR PALESTINE

The Park Avenue Synagogue of the 1920s called itself Conservative Reform. Although affiliated with the Reform Union of Hebrew Congregations, P.A.S. followed its clergy's leadership concerning many matters, including support for Palestine. P.A.S. clergy felt that Zionism was compatible with American values of freedom of self-determination. Synagogue programs were held to develop awareness of the successes of the Jewish settlements. Art, music, and other cultural activities arising from Palestine created a new identity to keep American Jews invested in the fate of fellow Jews.

MILTON STEINBERG LINKS ZIONISM WITH AMERICAN VALUES

Rabbi Milton Steinberg, an advocate of Mordecai Kaplan's view of Judaism as a civilization, was an unabashed Zionist. He spent part of his 1929 honeymoon at the sixteenth Zionist Congress in Basel, and another part in Israel. According to Simon Noveck in his book "Milton Steinberg: Portrait of a Rabbi," which is quoted in this article, "Steinberg's approach was religious-cultural rather than political, consistent with the American emphasis on free immigration, the value of the movement for Jewish morale, and cultural autonomy for all peoples sharing the land. But he was willing to see that political realities might make a state an unalterable consequence."

Milton Steinberg immediately began to implement his goal to reconnect Jews with their culture, community and Zionism, with programs and sermons about Jewish history, religion, and current Jewish problems. Hebrew, included in the earliest Adult Education course offerings, was very popular. A 1939 eight-session series included lectures on anti-Semitism, Zionism, conditions of European Jewry under Nazism, Reconstructionism, current philosophies of Judaism, and the structure of Jewish life in America.

During that period, other synagogue programming reflected growing Zionist connections. Youth groups held benefits for Youth Aliyah. A Friday evening service in 1941 featured the head of the Department of Youth and Education of the Zionist Organization of America on "the new Jewish types emerging as a result of the return to the soil and the handicrafts of Eretz Yisrael."

THE GROWING PROBLEMS OF EUROPEAN JEWRY

As the situation in Europe became more desperate, Rabbi Steinberg and the congregation grappled with the unfolding human drama and initiated some limited efforts to help European Jewry. The High Holy Day sermons announced in the 1938 Bulletin highlighted their trepidations. "This is perhaps the most fearful New Year in the memory of living man. The shadows of doubt and confusion as to the future of Israel and humanity will be heavy upon us. Rabbi Steinberg has planned holiday sermons of the four most painful issues that weigh on us."

*"**Our Inconstant Hearts:** Treating with the mood of despair so general today and with the techniques for transcending it.*

__To the Old Altars:__ Treating with the corruption of our essential institutions, such as the State and the Church and with the question as to how they can again be turned to the enhancement of life.

__Has civilization failed?__ Concerned with the apprehension so widely felt that all man's classic ideals are but delusion and a striving after wind.

__The regeneration of the heart:__ Dedicated to the most essential, yet most neglected instrument for attaining salvation, individual and social, the heart of man. In sequence, our pulpit will treat the focal points of the contemporary crisis, seeking understanding, courage, and hope for the New Year."

On the Adult Education Shabbat after *Kristallnacht,* Milton Steinberg spoke on the prevalent "Cult of Violence." He revealed his dark side, finding that "the new religion of the world is a religion of violence" that has found its expression in political life, in the arts, and even in contemporary dance. In another sermon, he called upon religiously-minded Americans to devote their energies to "removing from American society the very manifestations which in violent form were ravaging Europe."

During the 1930s, Milton Steinberg closely followed the deteriorating environment of European Jewry and shared information and unflinching criticism of the Nazis' anti-Semitic actions. He provided spiritual guidance to help congregants cope with their distress. But, when Hitler invaded Austria in March of 1938, Noveck reports that Steinberg not only spoke of the need for goodwill, but also "devoted himself to the problem of the refugees from Central Europe. Because of the German background of many of the congregation, requests for affidavits flooded his desk. By February 1939, the requests were so numerous that selection was a painful necessity, and he knew the

destinies of human beings and possibly their lives were at stake."

At this time Rabbi Steinberg convinced the Board to invite two German rabbis to come to U.S. as his assistants at modest salaries. One died, but Rabbi Erwin Zimet made it. Rabbi Steinberg was also able to get papers for his fiancée, and they married at P.A.S.

WARTIME EFFORTS

Upon the bombing of Pearl Harbor, the life of the synagogue was more directly impacted. Rabbi Steinberg called the fight "a holy war, not only against an immediate enemy but for the achievement of that era of universal peace which the prophets of Israel first proclaimed to mankind. He pledged his unwavering loyalty and the fullest dedication of the synagogue to the war effort." In fact, the synagogue "soon took on the complexion of a defense center, with first-aid classes, sewing groups, and bond drives." "The war is touching us one way or another—in a great absorption with defense enterprises, in a succession of weddings, soldiers on furloughs, or young men who have been called to the colors," Milton Steinberg wrote. Much energy was devoted to maintaining the promise of the institution under difficult circumstances.

The 1940s found Milton Steinberg increasingly recognizing the potential of Palestine as a refuge for the oppressed Jews of Europe, and of the new responsibilities falling on the shoulders of American Jews, as leaders of world Jewry. "In 1941-1942 he was recruited to co-chair a committee to enlist the Christian clergy…committed to work for the establishment of a Jewish commonwealth." News of Hitler's policy of total extermination became public knowledge late in 1942. A day of mourning was proclaimed for the Jewish community, and a delegation of representatives of leading Jewish organizations called on President Roosevelt with a plea for action, but got no significant response. Nor did a "Stop Hitler Now" rally at Madison Square Garden have any great impact. After a day of protest by the Federal Council of Churches also got the cold shoulder, Steinberg realized that "the only hope for saving the Jews of Europe was to get them to Palestine."

Achieving support for the Zionist cause presented challenges inside the congregation, so Rabbi Steinberg moved slowly. Board minutes reveal that in 1938 he was granted permission to use the synagogue



facilities for a Yorkville Branch of the Zionist Organization of America. This involved "breaking precedent by soliciting in the Synagogue bulletin, 'The Scroll,' on behalf of an organization outside the Park Avenue Synagogue"—for membership in the Yorkville Branch of the ZOA, to help reach the national goal of 150,000 members.

Five years later, Noveck claimed that Steinberg was prodded to deliver a synagogue-wide commitment that he knew would not readily be supported by the Board due to the "non-Zionism and anti-Zionism (sentiments) endemic among the older German and Alsatian elements in our membership." Noveck included Rabbi Steinberg's letter to the Board stating, "The only chance for European Jewry is Palestine. The only chance of opening the doors of Palestine lies in a great mobilization of all Jewish energies behind the established agencies…We (P.A.S.) have an inescapable moral obligation to throw the weight of our synagogue behind an open door policy."

The Board minutes of May 1943 indicate success: "…Park Avenue Synagogue, recognizing the importance of Palestine as contributing to a solution of the problem of Jewish homelessness in Europe, and as a fountainhead of Jewish cultural values endorses the Zionist program in principle, and enrolls its membership in the Zionist Organization of America, undertaking to bill the membership of P.A.S. for their annual dues in the ZOA with the reservations:

a) "That each member of P.A.S. shall by simple written declaration to the Secretary of the congregation have the right to abstain from participation in the ZOA should his conscience so dictate and that all members of P.A.S. should be apprised of that."

b) "That the membership in the congregation shall in no way be affected by failure of any member to pay such Zionist dues."

Finally, in November, it was passed at a congregational meeting, and Chairman of the Board Bernard Botein sent a letter to congregants that "unless you have scruples of conscience that run to the contrary, it is a moral duty to enroll."

THE PROBLEM OF THE REFUGEES

Before the world uncovered the terrible truth of the death tolls exacted by the Germans, Rabbi Steinberg delivered a sermon that concretized the horrors they perpetrated. It was about a now-decimated European

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Say Shalom to our New Hebrew Curriculum

Ron Koas, Education Director

I have often said that my door is always open to parents to come in and share their thoughts and concerns regarding their children's education. I am willing to hear suggestions and take necessary action if necessary. Last year, some parents approached me regarding our Hebrew curriculum. They expressed an interest in putting more of an emphasis on *Ivrit* in the school, and were hoping to see some changes in our curriculum to reflect this.

This confirmed my own feelings about putting more of a focus on Hebrew. I had been reluctant to make major changes at P.A.S. my first year; being new I felt I still needed to get more familiar with the Religious School's runnings before implementing changes. But now I felt the time was right, and the parents' thoughts confirmed this further. Hebrew is such an integral part of Jewish life, connecting us to our Bible, our prayers, and our brothers and sisters in the State of Israel. If a child attends religious school for several years and is still in need of tutoring for his/her bar/bat mitzvah or isn't capable of conversing in simple Hebrew, we are not doing our job properly!

I would like to introduce you to our new Hebrew program here at P.A.S. It includes some new textbooks and educational materials, as well as more time devoted in the classroom to all aspects of Hebrew study. I believe this is a positive change for our school, and one that will enhance the educational experience of every child here. I am including below a brief description of each grade's Hebrew curriculum:

Gan students begin their journey of Jewish education using the "Building Jewish Life (BJL)—Beginnings" curriculum from Torah Aura Productions. Through the colorful and exciting folders that are the foundation of the curriculum, the children are introduced to the celebratory aspects of home, family, synagogue and community. The curriculum matches each of these celebrations to a Hebrew letter via a key word.

Alef students use "Now I Know My Alef-Bet", a Hebrew reading-readiness program designed specifically for first graders. It introduces the Hebrew Alef-Bet through a set of twenty-two lessons.

Bet students embark on the exciting journey to formal Hebrew literacy using the *"Ot la-Ba'ot"* primer and student workbook. This curriculum uses simple oral language to facilitate reading; has a major siddur (prayer book) component; connects Hebrew to the State of Israel; and empowers parents to become partners in learning Hebrew with their children. There is an *Ot la-Ba'ot* web page for parents on the Torah Aura website (www.torahaura.com).

Gimel students are ready to begin learning modern Hebrew using *"Shalom Ivrit"* (Vol.1) published by Behrman House. This is also the year that students learn to write in Hebrew script with the aid of the *"Derekh Binah"* Script Writing Workbook.

Hebrew language study continues in Daled using *"Shalom Ivrit"* Vol. 2 and *"Derekh Binah."*

The *Hay* grade is a transitional year as students take on some "middle school" status and follow a curriculum which begins to directly prepare them for Bar and Bat Mitzvah. Students are divided into sections based on their language study needs. Some students spend most of their Hebrew language class time gaining comprehension and communication skills in modern Hebrew, while others spend more time practicing basic reading skills. We use *"Ivrit Esreh"* (Tel Aviv University Press), a text designed specifically for teaching basic, communicative Hebrew to pre-teens and adolescents, for modern Hebrew instruction. All groups master the reading of several specific prayers and blessings in order to be ready for Bar/Bat Mitzvah preparation with the Cantors. All Hay students take a weekly Torah cantillation class, which introduces them to the trope system and creative methods for learning, retaining and practicing the cantillations. This class boosts students' confidence and gives them a leg up on beginning their Haftarah cantillation lessons in *Vav.*

All our students become Bar/Bat Mitzvah within a year or two of beginning the *Vav* grade, and the curriculum for *Vav* (and the following *Zayin* year) is designed to support this important time in their lives. Students complete learning the *Kabbalat Shabbat* and *Shabbat Shacharit* services. As in the previous year, students study Hebrew language in sections, using *"Ivrit Esreh"* as the instructional text, with a focus on conversational Hebrew.

My faculty and I are all looking forward to a most productive year with our new Hebrew program. I am confident that your children will be learning by leaps and bounds, and hopefully in the process they will be able to teach you some more Hebrew as well!

Camp Keshet Priority Registration

Deadline for P.A.S. members and for returning campers ends **December 14. For more information,** *contact us at 212-369-2600 ext. 153 or at camp@pasyn.org.*

Tot Kabbalat Shabbat

Friday, December 7 | 5:15-6:00 pm

Join us for Friday evening services for toddlers and pre-school aged children, parents, grandparents and friends.

December Birthday Celebration

Friday, December 14 | 6:15 pm

Bring Shabbat into your children's lives by celebrating their birthdays at Park Avenue Synagogue. All children with December birthdays will be called up to the bimah and honored at our Birthday Celebration Service. Come as a family and celebrate.

Contact *Rabbi Kenneth Stern's office for more information.*

Saturday, December 1 *21 Kislev*
Parashat Vayeshev
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
Bar Mitzvah of Brian Miller,
Son of Sharon and Lewis Miller
9:30 am Havurah Service
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am Tot Shabbat
11:15 am Nitzanim Service

Sunday, December 2 *22 Kislev*
10:00 am Hanukkah Art Workshop

Monday, December 3 *23 Kislev*
5:30 pm Vav B'nai Mitzvah Program

Tuesday, December 4 *24 Kislev*
Hanukkah: 1 Candle
CS *Vav* Jewish Museum Visit

Wednesday, December 5 *25 Kislev*
Hanukkah: 2 Candles

Thursday, December 6 *26 Kislev*
Hanukkah: 3 Candles
5:30 pm Vav Students/Parents B'nai Mitzvah Program

Friday, December 7 *27 Kislev*
Hanukkah: 4 Candles
5:00 pm Tot Kabbalat Shabbat
6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service:
Welcoming the Sabbath

Saturday, December 8 *28 Kislev*
Parashat Miketz
Hanukkah: 5 Candles
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
Bat Mitzvah of Shelby Hochberg,
Daughter of Arlene and Bruce Hochberg
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am Nitzanim Service

Sunday, December 9 *29 Kislev*
Hanukkah: 6 Candles
11:00 am Project Ezra Lunch
Rosh Chodesh: It's a Girl Thing!
Kadima and Ruach Events

Monday, December 10 *1 Tevet*
Rosh Chodesh Tevet
Hanukkah: 7 Candles

Tuesday, December 11 *2 Tevet*
Hanukkah: 8 Candles

Wednesday, December 12 *3 Tevet*
Hanukkah: 8th Day
7:00 pm Film:"Liberty Heights"

Friday, December 14 *5 Tevet*
6:00 pm CS Gan, Alef,Bet & Limud
Kabbalat Service & Dinner
6:15 pm Friday Evening Service
Children's Birthday Service

Saturday,December 15 *6 Tevet*
Parashat Vayigash
Shabbat HaKavod
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
Bar Mitzvah of Danny Cohen,
Son of Lisa and Lawrence Cohen
9:30 am Havurah Service
10:00 am Shabbat B'yachad & Zimriya
11:15 am Tot Shabbat

Wednesday, December 19 *10 Tevet*
Fast of Tenth of Tevet
No School
Cong. School Parent Meeting

Thursday, December 20 *11 Tevet*
No School

Friday, December 21 *12 Tevet*
6:15 pm Friday Evening Service
Farewell Service for Israel Trip Travelers

Saturday, December 22 *13 Tevet*
Parashat Vayechi
Leave for Israel
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am Nitzanim Service

Friday, December 28 *19 Tevet*
6:15 pm Friday Evening Service

Saturday, December 29 *20 Tevet*
Parashat Shemos
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am Nitzanim Service

Charity equals all other commandments. —*Talmud*

Kol Nidre Appeal 2007/5768

On behalf of the Officers and Board of Trustees, I would like to thank all those who have given to our annual *Kol Nidre* Appeal through October 12, 2007. Your generous donations help Park Avenue Synagogue maintain excellence in the dynamic programming we offer the congregation.

The *Kol Nidre* Appeal is one of the most important synagogue-wide fundraising campaigns that we conduct each year, and the funds that are raised help the annual synagogue operating budget in countless ways. We are under new financial pressure because:

—Membership dues account for only 36% of the $8 million operating budget; and tuition accounts for another 39%; leaving 25% to be raised in other ways;

—Our security and insurance costs have more than tripled in recent years;

—Maintaining our inspiring sanctuary and landmark facility, parts of which date back to 1927, requires constant attention and improvement.

More than ever, we need your generous contributions. It is very important that all congregants contribute to this annual appeal.

Again, our heartfelt thanks to those who have given. If you have not yet had the opportunity to make a *Kol Nidre* pledge, we look forward to hearing from you.

B'shalom,

Marty Halbfinger
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Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Lipton
Mr. Marc Litofsky & Dr. Alison Litofsky
Dr. & Mrs. Richard Litt
Mrs. Miriam London
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Lonner
Mr. Jeffrey Loria
Mrs. Sivia Loria
Mr. & Mrs. Jamie Lowe
Mr. & Mrs. David Ludwig
Drs. Joel & Helene Lupatkin
Mr. Larry Lurin & Ms. Eileen Lewis-Lurin
Mr. & Mrs. Ivan Lustig
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Lustig
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Mr. & Mrs. William Mack
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Mr. & Mrs. Aaron Malinsky
Mr. Jason Mandel & Ms. Dana Rosenthal
Mrs. Dorothy Margolin
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Dr. & Mrs. Irving Markowitz
Mr. & Mrs. Morris Mark
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Mr. & Mrs. Robert Matthews
Ms. Sandra Mayerson
Mr. & Ms. George McCormack
Mr. Ernest McNutt & Ms. Evelyn Finster
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Mrs. Roxandra Meron
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Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Milston
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Dr. Jacob Oberman
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Mr. Peter Oltchick & Ms. Amanda Bell-Oltchick
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Ms. Susan Orenbuch
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Mr. Jeffrey Palca
Mr. & Mrs. David Parker
Mr. & Mrs. Nathaniel Paull
Mr. & Mrs. Todd Pearl
Mr. & Mrs. Harlan Peltz
Mr. Herbert Peress
Dr. & Mrs. Walter Peretz
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Mr. & Mrs. Louis Perlmutter
Mr. David Phillips & Mrs. Ellen Zweig-Phillips
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Ms. Annette Pincus
Dr. Morris M. Podolsky & Ms. Laurie Ferber Podolsky
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Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Polley
Mr. & Mrs. Lester Pollack
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Pomerantz
Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Porges
Mr. Charles Portney & Ms. Tama Starr
Mr. & Mrs. David Portman
Ms. Claudia Poster
Mr. & Mrs. Marc Powers
Dr. Saul Pressner & Ms. Barbara Gmora
Mr. Robert Price
Dr. Beverly Richman Prutkin
Mr. Alex Pustilnik & Ms. Rachel Bluestein
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Mr. Steven Rizzi & Dr. Lisa Rizzi
Mr. David Robbins & Mrs. Joyce Chang Robbins
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Ralph Schlosstein
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Dr. & Mrs. Edwin Schottenstein
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Schreiber
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Mr. & Mrs. Allan Schulman
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Mr. Harvey Schulweis
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Schulhof
Dr. & Mrs. Neal Schultz
Mr. & Mrs. Adam Schwartz
Mr. & Mrs. Eric Schwartz
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Schwarz
Mr. Mark Schwarz
Mrs. Malka Schwarz
Mr. & Mrs. Sherwood Schwarz
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Mr. & Mrs. Harold M. Seidel
Dr. David Sekons
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Mr. & Ms. Robert Semaya
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Serota
Drs. David & Dana Shani
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Mr. Eytan Shapiro & Ms. Lesley-Anne Gliedman
Mrs. Helen Shapiro
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Shapiro
Ms. Barbara Sherr
Mr. & Mrs. William Sherman
Mr. & Mrs. Mitchell Shore
Mr. Daniel Shuchman & Ms. Lori Lesser
Mrs. Sylvia Shulman
Mr. Andrew Siegel & Ms. Sally-Beth Kruteck
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Siegelbaum
Mr. Marc Silberberg & Mrs. Barbara Julius
Mrs. Ramie Silbert
Mr. Sydney Silberman
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Sills
Mr. & Mrs. Brad Silver
Mr. & Mrs. David Silver
Mr. & Mrs. David Silvers
Mr. & Mrs. Joel Silver
Mr. & Ms. Robert Silverstone
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Simmon
Mr. & Mrs. James Simons
Mrs. Laura Simon
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Simon
Dr. & Mrs. David Simpson
Dr. & Mrs. Barry Singer
Mr. & Mrs. Sheldon Siskin
Mr. & Ms. Howard Slavin
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Sloane
Mr. & Mrs. David Small
Dr. & Mrs. Gerald Smallberg
Mr. Chris Smith & Ms. Linda Yarden
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Spencer Smul
Mr. Lawrence Soicher
Mr. & Mrs. Craig Solomon
Mrs. Florence Solomon
Ms. Irene Sommerfeld
Dr. & Mrs. Allen Spiegel
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Spiera
Mr. & Mrs. Arnold Spitz
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Stadler
Mr. & Mrs. Jay Stark
Mrs. Margot Steinberg
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Steinberg
Dr. & Mrs. Aaron Stern
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Stern
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Stern
Mrs. Frances Stewart
Mrs. Vivian Storper
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Strassner
Mr. Hugh Straus
Ms. Leone Straus
Mr. & Mrs. Victor Struber
Dr. & Mrs. Joshua Sullum
Ms. Vera Wolff Sullivan
Mrs. Adele Suslak
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Sztul
Mr. & Mrs. David Tananbaum
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Taubin
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Teitelbaum
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Tetenbaum
Dr. & Mrs. Stephen Thomas
Mrs. Frances Tompkins
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Toporek
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Treiger
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Trenchard
Mr. & Mrs. Marshall Tycher
Mr. Harold Unger
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Urvater
Mr. & Mrs. Adam Usdan
Mr. Martin Usdan
Mr. & Mrs. Nathaniel Usdan
Mr. & Ms. Michael Varet
Mr. & Mrs. John Veronis
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Vogelstein
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Volk
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Mr. James Wacht & Ms. Meryl Pearlstein
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Ms. Jacqueline Wahl
Dr. Renee Waldinger
Mrs. Ella Wallack & Mr. Marc Wallack
Mr. & Ms. Larry Wallach
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Mr. Steven Wasserman & Mrs. Randi Goldberg
Mr. & Mrs. Thom Waye
Mr. Bram Weber & Ms. Aimee Gunsberger
Mr. & Mrs. Peter Weidman
Mr. Edward Weinstein
Dr. & Mrs. Harry Weinrauch
Dr. Irving Weinstein & Dr. Rona Kurtz
Mr. Leonard Weintraub
Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Weinberg
Mr. Robert Weintraub
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Weingarten
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Dr. & Mrs. Steven Weinfeld
Dr. Bernard Weiss
Mr. Peter Weisman & Dr. Tamara Weisman
Mr. David Wermuth & Ms. Jennifer Kroman
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Mr. & Mrs. Robert Willens
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Mrs. Jean Wilson
Ms. Irene Winkelman
Mr. & Mrs. Charles Winnick
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Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Winter
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Mr. & Mrs. Jarrett Wolfe
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Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Wolf
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Wolitzer
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Mrs. Laurie Zacharias
Dr. & Mrs. Brett Zbar
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Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Zinbarg
Drs. Joel Zinberg & Colleen Edwards
Mr. & Mrs. Adam Zivitofsky
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Zuckerman

Bikur Cholim

Natalie, Brett, Brian & Benjamin Barth, *wishing a speedy recovery to "Mimi" Ann Barth.*
Ruth Druss, *in honor of Diane Koones who has been a wonderful friend.*
Howard Goldberg, *in honor of his Aliyah during Yom Kippur.*
Harry Krieger, *in honor of Marlene Muskin and Floy Kaminski who were so helpful in a time of need.*

Congregational School Fund

E.J. Borrack, *in memory of Willy Martin, beloved father of Neva Martin Anton.*
E.J. Borrack, *in memory of Edith Zitwer, beloved mother of Mary Zitwer Millman.*

Vivian Finkel Education Fund

Vivian Finkel, *in memory of Judge Louis Kaplan.*

Hesed Fund

Carol & Robert P. Antler, *in honor of their anniversary.*

High School Food Pantry

Cantor Nancy Abramson, *in honor of her birthday.*
Anne & Paul Corwin, *in memory of Sylvia Hochman Alden.*
Rachael & Mark First & Family, *in memory of Betty Kleiner.*
Rachael & Mark First & Family, *in memory of Leslie Handler.*
Elaine S. Gilde & Richard S. Green, *in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Adam Silverman.*
Elaine S. Gilde & Richard S. Green, *in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Ariel Zahler.*
Dr. & Mrs. Samuel Katz.
Isaac & Susan Lemor, *in memory of Helen Rosen Pollak, mother of Frank Pollak.*
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Levy.
Ellie, Mort and Alex Mackoff, *with much gratitude and thanks to Cantor Nancy Abramson.*

Library Fund

Dr. Stephen Comite, *in memory of his beloved father, Morris Comite.*

Liturgical Music Fund

Linda Klempner, *in honor of Cantor David and Joan Lefkowitz's first grandchild.*
Fredric LeVine, *in honor of Talia Eden and new grandparents Cantor David and Joan Lefkowitz.*

Albert & Rachel Murad Memorial Scholarship Fund

Ernest Mukawal, *in honor of my cousin Howard Murad, and in loving memory of my aunt Rachel and uncle Albert Murad.*
Doris & Henry Murad, *in honor of Dr. Howard Murad and Ms. Loralee Knotts.*

Prayer Book Fund

Mrs. Harriet Feiwel, *in memory of her beloved mother, Libby Rich.*

Welfare Fund

Natalie, Brett, Brian & Benjamin Barth, *Mazel Tov to Michael and Tamara on the birth of their baby boy.*
Dr. & Mrs. Samuel Katz, *in memory of their loved ones.*

Yiddish Club Fund

Florence Solomon, *in honor of Bea and Selma Hollander.*

Synagogue Offerings

Ahou Abroon, *in memory of her beloved grandfather, Yaghoub Banayan.*
Harvey Alstodt, *in memory of his beloved mother, Fay Alstodt.*
Neva Anton, *in honor of her birthday.*
Dr. Georgette Bennett, *in memory of her beloved mother Sidonie Bennett.*
Dr. Georgette Bennett & Leonard Polonsky, *in memory of Rabbi Judah Nadich*
Lori Bilkis, *in memory of her beloved sister Miriam Bisulco.*
Janet Spector Bishop, *in memory of Rita Shapiro.*
Elaine Coleman Block, *in memory of Paul G. Block*
Jessica Boar, *in memory of her beloved father, Bernard Boar.*
Bernard Breslin, *in honor of the 62nd anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah*
Constance Breslin, *in memory of her beloved father, Eli Lane.*
Trudy Brown, *in honor of Geri Besca.*
Bonnie Chajet, *in memory of her beloved mother, Muriel Loeb.*
Carol Chavkin, *in memory of Frank Pollak's mother, Helen Rosen Pollak.*
Mr. & Mrs. David Cook.
Samuel Cooper, *in memory of his beloved father, William Cooper.*
Dr. Juliet Diller, *in memory of her beloved mother, Manya Cooper.*
Florence K. Edelstein, *in memory of Judge Louis Kaplan.*
Florence K. Edelstein, *for the speedy recovery of Jeffrey M. Edelstein.*
Elizabeth Feiner, *in memory of her beloved father, George Cooper*
Joan Felder, *in memory of her beloved father, Irving Schlesinger.*
Mark Fraier, *in honor of the birthday of Sarita Fraier.*
Mark & Sarita Fraier, *in honor of Anita Gluck.*
Mark & Sarita Fraier, *in honor of Blanche & Phil Agisim*
Mark & Sarita Fraier, *in honor of Rob & Heidi Silverstone.*
Wendy Gendel, *in memory of her beloved father, Bernard Klein.*
Harold Geringer, *in memory of his beloved father-in-law, Bernard Nissen.*
Marshall Gluck, *in memory of his beloved wife, Ruth Rubin Gluck.*
Brenda Goldman, *in memory of her beloved sister Edith Paredes.*
Dr. James Goldman, *in memory of his beloved father, Mandel Goldman.*
Mary Goldman, *in honor of her birthday.*
Mary Goldman, *in memory of her beloved mother, Ida Gilbert.*
Dr. Ethan Gologor, *in memory of his beloved mother, Esther Gologor.*
Barbara Gertel Goltzer, *in memory of her beloved grandmother, Rifka Gertel.*
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Goodman, *in honor of their anniversary.*
Linda, Jennifer & Jason Grad, *in memory of Arthur Kobacker, father of Peggy Shiffrin.*
Linda, Jennifer & Jason Grad, *in memory of Gary Jordan Grad, M.D.*
Dorothy Hall, *in memory of her beloved father, Harry Fine.*
Alice Mortman Harris, *in memory of her beloved mother, Anne Mortman.*
Dr. David Helfgott, *in memory of his beloved father, Howard Helfgott.*
Leon Heller, *in memory of his beloved father, Max J. Heller.*
Leon Heller, *in memory of his beloved brother, Harold M. Heller.*
Steven Hirth, *in honor of his birthday.*
Soledad & Bob Hurst.
Dale Israel, *in memory of her beloved father, Edward Pearlman.*
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Israel, *in honor of their anniversary.*
Miriam Kaplan, *in honor of her birthday.*
Marilyn Katz, *in memory of her beloved mother, Lillian Greenberg.*
Michael & Jackie Katz`, *in honor of Philip and Marlene Muskin as they celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary.*
Gershon Kekst, *in memory of his beloved daughter, Michele Kekst.*
Gladys Kessler, *in memory of her beloved brother, Jesse Bloomfield.*
Donald Kirsch, *in honor of his birthday.*
Norman Kreinen, *in memory of his beloved mother, Elizabeth Kreinen.*
Becky Laub, *in honor of Amy and Bob Bressman. In appreciation for their hospitality and kindness during the High Holidays.*
Marc E. Leland, *in memory of Rita Shapiro.*
Mr. & Mrs. Alan Levine, *in memory of Rabbi Judah Nadich.*
Marian Levitt, *in memory of her beloved mother, Mildred Pascal.*
Miriam London, *in memory of her beloved mother-in-law Selma London.*
Miriam London, *in honor of her birthday.*
Dr. Ann Lyons, *in memory of her beloved father, Julius Moskowitz.*
Marion Madoff, *in memory of her beloved father Irving Schwartzberg.*
Ann Mallouk, *in memory of my dear friend, Eleanore Geringer.*
Martha Neustadter Mendelsohn, *in memory of Jane Neustadter Revasch's husband, David Revasch.*
Sheila & Bob Miller, *in honor of Rabbi Ken Stern for a beautiful Baby Naming for our grandson.*
Vivian Milstein, *in memory of Rita Shapiro.*
Rise Norman, *in memory of her beloved father, Herbert Norman.*
Michael Norwich, *in memory of his beloved father, Isadore Norwich.*
Carol Platt Opas & Jonathan Opas, *in memory of Hon. Louis I. Kaplan.*
Susan Orenbuch, *in memory of her beloved father Berek Orenbuch.*
Julius Paige, *in memory of his beloved mother, Beckie Pogrebinsky.*
Rachel Philipp, *in memory of her beloved brother Ernest Furchtgott.*
Dr. Brian Pollack, *in memory of his beloved father, Jacques Pollack.*
Ruth Pordy, *in memory of her beloved brother Marvin Gansberg.*
Ruth Rabinowitz, *in memory of her beloved father, Harry Rabinowitz.*
Mordecai Rochlin, *in memory of his beloved brother, Benjamin Rochlin.*
Herman Rosen, *in honor of his 88th birthday.*
Estelle Roth, *in honor of her birthday.*
Andre Sassoon, *in memory of his beloved mother, Sarine Sassoon.*

Synagogue Offerings *continued*

Melanie Schneider, *in honor of Susan Edelstein being honored as Kallah Bereshit.*
Laurel Schwartz, *in honor of the birthday of Marty Halbfinger.*
Malka Schwarz, *in memory of her beloved husband Mannes Schwarz.*
Sydney Silberman, *in honor of his birthday.*
Esther Silver, *in memory of her beloved father, Murray Altfeld.*
Letty Simon, *in honor of Ethan Lewis's second birthday on October 10th.*
Sheldon Siskin, *in memory of his beloved mother, Gertrude Siskin.*
Susan Smirnoff, *in memory of her beloved father Nathan Smirnoff.*
Lawrence Soicher, *in memory of his beloved father, Irving Soicher.*
Jacquie Spector, *in honor of Rita Shapiro.*
Karen Spector, *in memory of Manny Shapiro.*
Dr. Claire Steinberger, *in memory of her beloved father, Joseph Steinberger.*
Alan N. Stone.
Rosalyn Tauber, *in memory of Clara Tauber and Shlomo Tauber, grandparents of Susan Silverman, Judy Poss and David Brous.*
Ray Treiger, *in memory of his beloved father, Sam Treiger.*
Jacqueline Wahl, *in honor of her birthday.*
Lois Weinberg, *in memory of her beloved father, Aaron Harry Paul.*
Lois Weinberg, *in memory of her beloved mother, Myrtle Paul.*
Selma Weintraub, *in memory of her beloved husband,* Morris "Tiny" Weintraub.
Irene Winkelman, *in memory of her beloved father,* Louis L. Winkleman.
Liliane Yurkofsky, *in memory of her beloved father, Max Finger.*
Dr. Kirk Zachary & Susan S. Smirnoff, *for Yizkor.*
Aimee Zarabi, *in memory of her beloved father, David Soleimanzadeh.*
Eugene Zinbarg, *in honor of his birthday.*

Tikkun Olam Committee for Community Outreach

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Miller *in memory of Rabbi Judah Nadich.*
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Miler *in memory of Milton Finkel.*
Laurie Ferber Podolsky *in memory of her beloved father, Leon Ferber.*

PLAZA JEWISH
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630 Amsterdam Avenue (at 91st St.)
New York City (212) 769-4400
Andrew Fier, *President*

Celebrating a *Simcha*?

A birthday, anniversary, engagement, wedding, new grandchild, or anything else for which you are grateful? Sponsor a breakfast *Kiddush* any weekday after our Morning Minyan.

Contact *Lynn Schneider at the synagogue for more information, 212-369-2600.*

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
Dr. Albert and Phyllis L. Cornell

Bikur Cholim Caring Committee

Do you know someone ill, elderly, or homebound who would benefit from compassionate personal attention? The Park Avenue Synagogue *Bikur Cholim* Caring Committee reaches out to those in need through telephone calls, visits, and holiday packages. The Caring Committee is comprised of trained volunteers who are committed to providing hands-on support and companionship to those valued members of our congregation. All interactions are confidential.

To arrange for this mitzvah, *please call Rabbi Lincoln's office at 212-369-2600 ext. 120.*

Zionism, the Holocaust and the State of Israel *continued from page 13*

village named Seraye—the birthplace of his father. Reprinted in the Reconstructionist, it was used as the basis of many talks advocating for the plight of the refugees. Sadly, even an impassioned plea from Milton Steinberg to Eleanor Roosevelt brought a disappointing response.

EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH A JEWISH STATE

Milton Steinberg was sympathetic toward the situation of the Palestinian Arabs. However, he put the plight of the refugees and demands for their freedom and justice above the demands for a state. Moreover, he was saddened at the reversal of the British in their support for a two-state solution, and at the lack of U.S. governmental support.

Noveck reports that the declaration of the State of Israel by David Ben-Gurion was "ecstatic and breathtaking—the fulfillment of a millennial dream." On Rosh Hashanah of 1948, Rabbi Milton Steinberg spoke of this "latter day miracle." He combined themes of the struggle for social justice that has involved so many peoples of the world, in addition to Jews, with faith in God—"that over nature, over man, and over human affairs, spirit reigns supreme, that God is King."

The anniversary of the founding of the state of Israel became a day of celebration at P.A.S. and elsewhere; and the 60th anniversary will be marked here on Sunday, May 4, 2008 with a gala street fair.

Calendar of Events December 2007

Saturday, December 1 *21 Kislev*
Parashat Vayeshev
7:30 am Hashkama Service
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
Bar Mitzvah of Brian Miller,
Son of Sharon and Lewis Miller
9:30 am Havurah Service
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am Tot Shabbat
11:15 am Nitzanim Service
4:45 pm Mincha

Sunday, December 2 *22 Kislev*
10:00 am Hanukkah Art Workshop

Monday, December 3 *23 Kislev*
5:30 pm Vav B'nai Mitzvah Program
6:30 pm Adult Hebrew Levels I, II, Conv. $ ✆
7:30 pm Modern Hebrew $ ✆
8:00 pm Before the Stork

Tuesday, December 4 *24 Kislev*
Hanukkah: 1 Candle
CS *Vav* Jewish Museum Visit
11:00 am Tuesday Topics/Rabbi Stern
1:00 pm Sisterhood Hanukkah Film

Wednesday, December 5 *25 Kislev*
Hanukkah: 2 Candles

Thursday, December 6 *26 Kislev*
Hanukkah: 3 Candles
11:00 am Lunch 'n' Learn
5:30 pm Vav Students/Parents
B'nai Mitzvah Program
7:30 pm WEG Hanukkah Party ✆

Friday, December 7 *27 Kislev*
Light Candles: 4:10 pm
Hanukkah: 4 Candles
5:00 pm Tot Kabbalat Shabbat
6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service:
Welcoming the Sabbath
AFTER SERVICES:
Shabbat Dinner
Hasia Israeli, speaker: "Shared History, Shared Destiny: Jewish Peoplehood Re-defined." $ ✆

Saturday, December 8 *28 Kislev*
Parashat Miketz
Hanukkah: 5 Candles
7:30 am Hashkama Service
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
Bat Mitzvah of Shelby Hochberg,
Daughter of Arlene and Bruce Hochberg
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am Nitzanim Service
4:45 pm Mincha

Sunday, December 9 *29 Kislev*
Hanukkah: 6 Candles
11:00 am Project Ezra Lunch
Rosh Chodesh: It's a Girl Thing!
Kadima and Ruach Events

Monday, December 10 *1 Tevet*
Rosh Chodesh Tevet
Hanukkah: 7 Candles
7:30 pm Moonbeams

Tuesday, December 11 *2 Tevet*
Hanukkah: 8 Candles
11:00 am Tuesday Topics/Rabbi Stern
1:00 pm Sisterhood Yiddish Club
6:15 pm Men's Club Board
7:00 pm Young Couples Hanukkah Party
7:30 pm Healing Service

Wednesday, December 12 *3 Tevet*
Hanukkah: 8th Day
7:00 pm Film:"Liberty Heights"

Thursday, December 13 *4 Tevet*
11:00 am Lunch 'n' Learn

Friday, December 14 *5 Tevet*
Light Candles: 4:11 pm
6:00 pm CS Gan, Alef, Bet & Limud Kabbalat Service & Dinner
6:15 pm Friday Evening Service
Children's Birthday Service
7:15 pm Maalot Minyan

Saturday, December 15 *6 Tevet*
Parashat Vayigash
Shabbat HaKavod
7:30 am Hashkama Service
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
Bar Mitzvah of Danny Cohen,
Son of Lisa and Lawrence Cohen
9:30 am Havurah Service
10:00 am Shabbat B'yachad & Zimriya
11:15 am Tot Shabbat
4:45 pm Mincha

Sunday, December 16 *7 Tevet*

Monday, December 17 *8 Tevet*
11:00 am Sisterhood Book Discussion
8:00 pm Evening Book Discussion Group

Tuesday, December 18 *9 Tevet*
11:00 am Tuesday Topics/Rabbi Stern
12:00 pm Sisterhood Exec Board

Wednesday, December 19 *10 Tevet*
Fast of Tenth of Tevet
No School
Cong. School Parent Meeting

Thursday, December 20 *11 Tevet*
No School
11:00 am Lunch 'n' Learn

Friday, December 21 *12 Tevet*
Light Candles: 4:13 pm
6:15 pm Friday Evening Service
Farewell Service for Israel Trip Travelers

Saturday, December 22 *13 Tevet*
Parashat Vayechi
Leave for Israel
7:30 am Hashkama Service
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am Nitzanim Service
4:45 pm Mincha

Sunday, December 23 *14 Tevet*
Israel Trip

Monday, December 24 *15 Tevet*
Israel Trip

P.A.S Is Just a *Klik* Away

Park Avenue Synagogue's website, **www.pasyn.org** has the latest news, events, and times for any synagogue-related activity. And it also has lots of information about classes, programs, events, people, organizations, and meetings. Sign up for e-mail notifications! Communicate with our clergy and staff!

Tuesday, December 25 *16 Tevet*
Holiday
Offices Closed
Israel Trip

Wednesday, December 26 *17 Tevet*
Israel Trip

Thursday, December 27 *18 Tevet*
Israel Trip
11:00 am Lunch 'n' Learn

Friday, December 28 *19 Tevet*
Light Candles: 4:17 pm
Israel Trip
6:15 pm Friday Evening Service

Saturday, December 29 *20 Tevet*
Parashat Shemos
Israel Trip
7:30 am Hashkama Service
9:15 am Sanctuary Service
10:15 am Jr. Congregation
11:15 am Nitzanim Service
5:00 pm Mincha

Sunday, December 30 *21 Tevet*
Israel Trip

Monday, December 31 *22 Tevet*
Holiday
Offices Closed
Israel Trip

Mincha
Sunday-Thursday at 5:45 pm. Saturdays as noted.

Daily Minyanim
Monday-Friday at 7:15 am;
Sundays and Legal Holidays at 9:00 am,
except as noted.

Hashkama
Saturdays and Yom Tov at 7:30 am, except as noted.

Information is subject to change.
Confirm at ***www.pasyn.org*** *or with the office.*

See page 4 for Religious Services
and page 15 for Children's and School Programs.



125th Anniversary Ball *With a Special Tribute to Rabbi David H. Lincoln*
Saturday, March 1, 2008 | 7:30 pm | Gotham Hall New York

For more information, *or to get involved please contact Co-chairs*
Marcia Eppler Colvin and Lynn Halbfinger
mecolvin@aol.com *lmhalb@aol.com*
917-923-2436 *212-996-5526*

"Many candles can be kindled
from one candle
without diminishing it."

—Midrash Rabbah 15:19

Newman and Leventhal
CATERERS, INC.
Appointed Caterers To
Park Avenue Synagogue
50 East 87 Street New York City
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Judaica Classics by Doina
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See our display in the lobby of P.A.S.

Park Avenue Synagogue Bulletin ***DECEMBER 2007***

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New York, NY
Permit No. 8526

celebrating 125 years

Park Avenue Synagogue ק"ק אגודת ישרים

1882 to 2007-2008

תשס"ז-תשס"ח

David H. Lincoln, Senior Rabbi
Kenneth A. Stern, Rabbi
David Lefkowitz, Senior Cantor
Nancy Abramson, Cantor
Amy A.B. Bressman, Chairman of the Board
Menachem Z. Rosensaft, President
Beryl P. Chernov, Executive Director
Ron Koas, Education Director
Carol Hendin, Director, Early Childhood Center
Sarah Gribetz, Director, Lifelong Learning
Rabbi Matthew A. Reimer, Director, Rabbi Judah Nadich High School and Youth Programs
Lisa Samick, Director, Camp Keshet
Patricia Rich, P.A.S. Bulletin Editor
Lawrence Conley/4W, Graphic Design
Plaza Jewish Community Chapel, Inc., Funeral Directors

50 East 87th Street, New York, NY 10128 | Synagogue Office 212-369-2600 | www.psyn.org

A Look Ahead

Economic and Real Estate Forecast | Tuesday, January 8 | 7:15 pm

An expert panel analyses and discusses the current trends in the financial and real estate markets. Organized by the Men's Club.

A Historic Weekend

Shabbaton and Dedication of our 125th Anniversary Torah | January 25-26, 2008

Save the entire weekend of January 25-26 for our special programs and celebrations around the dedication of our newly-inscribed Torah! After we observe Havdalah we will spend an exciting evening together—We will hear Chancellor Arnold Eisen of JTS and Rabbi David Ellenson of HUC-JIR! Rabbi Michael Paley, Scholar in Residence and the Director of the Jewish Resource Center of the UJA-Federation of New York will address us. We will sing and pray with Craig Taubman! We will dance, we will eat, we will drink…we will celebrate…. we will make history!

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